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LETTER DATED 16 APRIL 1997 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Arab States for the month of April 1997 and on behalf of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit herewith resolution 5637, of 31 March 1997, adopted at the one hundred and seventh regular session of the Council of the League of Arab States, entitled "The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf".

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali AL-SAEID
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Kuwait to
the United Nations and Chairman
of the Group of Arab States

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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Annex

The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered:

The note by the General Secretariat,

The content of the Final Declaration of the Arab Summit Conference held in Cairo from 21 to 23 June 1996,

The failure of the Iranian Government to respond to the sincere and earnest calls of the Arab Summit Conference, the Council of the League of Arab States, the Damascus Declaration countries, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the United Arab Emirates for a peaceful solution to the dispute,

The persistence of the Iranian Government in implementing measures aimed at consolidating its occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, and in forcibly imposing the status quo,

The continuing Iranian violations of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates,

And the recommendation of the Political Affairs Committee,

Decides

1. To reaffirm all its previous resolutions on the question;

2. To renew its affirmation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over its three islands of Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, as well as its unequivocal affirmation of all the peaceful measures and means which it adopts with a view to restoring its sovereignty over those islands;

3. To express its disapproval of the Iranian Government's persistence in implementing measures aimed at consolidating its occupation of the three islands and violating the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates so as to disturb security and stability in the region;

4. To renew its call to the Iranian Government to end its occupation of the three islands, refrain from practising a policy of forcibly imposing the status quo, cease erecting facilities in the three islands with the aim of altering their demographic composition, revoke all measures and remove all facilities previously put in place unilaterally in the three islands and pursue peaceful means with a view to solving the existing dispute in accordance with the principles and rules of international law, including agreement to refer the case to the International Court of Justice;

5. To request the Secretary-General to inform the United Nations of the importance of ensuring that the question remains before the Security Council until Iran ends its occupation of the three islands and the United Arab Emirates regains full sovereignty over them;

6. To request the Secretary-General to monitor the situation and submit a report thereon to the Council at its next session.

(Resolution 5637, 31 March 1997).